

10/521358

Docket No. 87333.5203  
Customer No. 30734

PATENT  
DT12 Rec'd PCT/PTO 14 JAN 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
Helmut HERZ, *et al.* )  
 )  
Application No.: *Not yet assigned* )  
 )  
Filed: Herewith )  
 )  
For: SAMPLE PROCESSING STATION )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**Attention: Application Branch**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits in this application, please amend the claims of the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 10 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 11 of this paper.